For a more full second to this transaction, and my views in regard to it. I refer to the correspondence between the Change d'Affirs of Austria and in Sucretary of State, which whenever a proper secasion occurs, be applied and suforced. The condition of the part of the United States, will, whenever a proper secasion occurs, be applied and suforced. The condition of the control of the control of the commissioner to that country, who has been recently appointed, is instructed to avail himself of all consists of the control of the commercial role and the control of the commercial role and the commercial role and the control of the contro

I am deeply searble of the immense responsibility which the present magnitude of the republic and the diversity and multibility of its interests devolves upon me; the alleviation of which so far as relates to the immediate conduct of the public business is, first, in my reliance on the windom and patriotism of the two Houses of Congress; and secondly in the directions afforded me by the principles of public polity, affirmed by our fathers of the epoch of 1798, sanctioned by long experience, and consecrated anew by the overwhelming voice of the people of the United States.

Recurring to these principles, which constitute the organic basis of union, we perceive that, wast as are the functions and the duties of the federal government, vested in, or entrusted to fits three great departments, the legislative, executive and judicial, yet the substantive power, the popular force, and the large capacites for social and material development, exist in the respective States, which, all being of themselves well constituted republice, as they preceded, so they alone are capable of maintaining and perpetualing the American Union. The federal government has its appropriate line of action in the specific and limited powers conferred on it by the constitution, chiefly as to those things in which the states have a common interest in their relations to one another, and to foreign governments, while the great mass of interests which belong to cultivate! men, the ordinary business of life, the springs of industry, all the diversified personal and domestic affairs of society, rest securely upon the general reserved powers of the people of the several States. There is the effective democracy of the nation, and there the vital seasence of its being and its greatness.

Of the practical consequences which flow from the nature of the federal government, the primary one is the duty of administering with integrity and fidelity the high trust reposed in it by the constitution, especially in the application of the public funds, as drawn by t

two million four hundred and twenty five thousand four hundred and forty seven dollars of receipts above expensions.

This fact of increasing surplus in the treasury be all came the subject of anxious consideration at a very early period of my administration, and the path of duty in regard to it seemed to me obvious and clear, namely:—first, to apply the surplus revenue to the discharge of the public debt, so far as it could judiciously be down; and, consolly, to devise means for the gravial recurtion of the revenue to the standard of the public exigencies.

Of these objects the first has been in the course of accomplishment in a manner and to a degree highly satisfactory. The amount of the public debt of all classes was, on the 4th of March, 1853, sixty-nine millions one hundred and ninety thousand and thirty preserve deliars; payments on account of which have been made, since that period, to the amount of it welve millions seven hundred and three thousand three hundred and twenty nine deliars—leaving unpaid, and in the continuous course of ligidation, the sum of infity six millions four hundred and eight six thousand seven hundred and eight deliars. These payments, although made at the market price of the respective classes of stocks, have been effected readily, and to the agencial accounter of the freatury, and have at the same time proved of signal utility in the relief they have incidentally afforded to the money market and to the industrial and commercial pursuits of the country.

The account of the above mentioned objects, that of the country of the Secretary of the Treasury, which is to

ter, and such may now be considered the settled construction of the power of the federal government up n the subject.

Numerous applications have been and no doubt will continue to be made fer grants of land, in aid of the construction of railways. It is not believed to be within the intent and meaning of the constitution, that the power to dispose of the public domain should be used otherwise than might be expected from a prudent proprietor, and, therefore, that grants of land to aid in the construction of roads at ould be restricted to cases where it would be for the interest of a preprietor, under like circumstances, thus to contribute to the construction of these works. For the practical operation of such grants thus far, in advancing the interests of the States in which the works are located, and, at the same time, the substactial interests of all the other States, by enhancing the value and promoting the rapid sale of the public domain, I refer you to the report of the Secretary of the Interior. A careful examination, however, will show that this experience is the result of a just discrimination, and will be far from affording encouragement to a rectless or indiscriminate extension of the principle. I commend to your favorable consideration the mas of genius of our country, who, by their inventions and discoveries in science and art have contributed largely to the improvements of the age, without in many instances securing for themselves anything like an adequate reward. For many interesting details upon this subject I refer you to the appropriste reports, and especially urge upon your early stitunion the apparently slight, but really important modifications of existing laws therein suggested.

The liberal appirit which has so long marked the action of

yeard. For many interesting details upon this subject, I refer you to the appropriate reports, and especially urge upon your early attention the apparently slight, but really important modifications of existing laws therein suggested.

The liberal spirit which has so long marked the action of Congress in relation to the District of Columbia, will, I have no doubt, continue to be manifested.

The erection of an asylum for the insame of the district of Columbia, and of the army and navy of the United States, has been somewhat retarded by the great demand for materials and labor during the last summer; but full preparation for the reception of patients, before the return of another winter, is anticipated; and there is the best reason to believe, from the plan and contemplated arrangements which have been devised, with the large experience furnished within the last few years in relation to the nature and treatment of the disease, that it will prove an asylum indeed to this most helpless and fillieted class of sufferers, and stand as a noble monument of wisdom and mercy.

Under the acts of Congress of August 31, 1852, and of March 3, 1853, designed to secure for the cities of Washington and Georgetown an abundant supply of good and wholesome water, the became my duty to examine the report and plans of the engineer who had charge of the surveys under the act first named. The best, if not the only plan, calculated to secure permanently the object sought was that which contemplates taking the water from the Great Falls of the Fotomac, and, consequently, I gave it my approval.

For the progress and present condition of this important work, and for its demands, so far as appropriations are concerned, I refer you to the report of the Socretary of War.

The present judicial system of the United States has now been in operation for so long a period of time, and has, in its general theory and much fit is details, become so familiar to the country, and acquired so entirely the public confidence, that if modified in any respec

enterprise and energy or our people are steadily and colorly struggling to supply. All experience siftems that wherever private enterprise will avail, it is most wise for the gene al government to leave to that and individual watchfulness the location and execution of all means of communication. The surveys before alluded to were designed to ascertain the most practicable and econemical route for a railroad from the river Mississippi to the Pacific Ocean. Parties are now in the field making explorations, where previous examinations had not supplied sufficient data, and where there was the best reason to hope the object sought might be found. The means and time being both limited, it is not to be expected that all the accurate knowledge desired will be obtained; but it is hoped that much and important information will be added to the stock previously possessed, and that partial, if not full reports of the surveys ordered, will be received in time for transmission to the two Houses of Congress on or before the first Monday in February next, as required by the act of appropriation. The magnitude of the enterprise contemplated has aroused, and will doubtless continue to excite, a very receival interest throughout the sountry. In its political, its commercial, and its military bearings, it has varied, great and increasing claims to consideration. The heavy expense, the great delay, and at times fatality attending travel by either of the Isthmus routes, have demonstrated the advantage which would result from territorial communication by such safe and rapid means as a railroad would supply.

These difficulties which have been encountered in a period of peace, would be magnified and still further increased in time of war. But whilst the embarrasements already encountered, and others under new contingencies to be anticipated, may serve strikingly to exhibit the importance of such a work, neither these nor all considerations combined can have an appreciable value, when weighted against the obligation strictlyto adhere to

and legitimate constitutional progress. We can afford to wait, but we cannot afford to overlook the ark of our security.

It is no part of my purpose to give prominence to any subject which may properly be regarded as set at rest by the deliberate judgment of the people. But while the present is bright with promise, and the future full of demand and inducement for the exercise of active intelligence, the past can never be without useful lessons of admonition and instruction. If its dangers serve not as beacons, they will evidently fail to fulfil the object of a wise design. When the grave shall have closed over all who are now endeavoring to meet the obligations of duty, the year 1850 will be recurred to as a period fille! with anxious apprehension. A successful war had just terminated. Peace brought with it a vast augmentation of territory. Disturbing questions arose, bearing upon the domestic institutions of one portion or the confederacy, and involving the constitutions rights of the States. But, notwithstanding differences of opinion and sentiment which then existed in relation to details and specific provisions, the acquisecence of distinguished citizens, whose terotion to the Union can never be doubted, has given reased vigor to our institutions, and restored a sense of repose and security to the public mind throughout the confederacy. That this repose is to suffer no shock during my official term. If I have power to avert it, those whe have placed me here may be assured. The wisdom of men. who knew what independence cost—who had put all at stake upon the issue of the Revolutionary struggle—disposed of the subject to which I refer, in the only way consistent with the union of these States, and with the march of power and promperty which has made us what we are. It is a significant fact, that from the adop-

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## THE RED MEN.

Report of the Indian Department. NOVEMBER 26, 1853.

Sin-I have the honor to submit a general view of the present condition of our Indian relations, and statement of the operations of this branch of the public service, during the past year.

Referring to the accompanying reports of the different superintendents, agents, and other persons employed for the benefit of the Indians, for more detailed and specific information in regard to their present condition and pro spects, I would remark that peace and tranquility have prevailed generally among the emigrated and other tribes along extensive inner frontiers, from Lake Superior and our northern boundary to Texas, with whom we have conventional relations and in ercourse of long standing. In regard to those more remote, and those more recently

ventional relations and in ercourse of long standing. In regard to these more remote, and those more recently brought under the supervision of the Department, fewer occurrences of a painful institute have been reported than might have been anticipated.

The whole number of Indians within our limits is estimated at 400,000. About 18 000 yet linger in some of the States east of the Mississippi—principally in New York, Michigan and Wisconsin—the remainder, consisting of Cherokees, Choctaws, and Seminoles, being in North Carolina, Mississippi, and Fforida.

The number in Minneeota and along the frontiers of the Western States to Texas, comprising mainly emigrated tribes, is estimated at 110,000; those of the Plains and Rocky Mountains, and not within any of our organized territories, at 63,000; those in Texas at 69,000; those in New Mexico at 45,000; those in California at 100,000; those in Utah at 12,000; and those in the Territories of Oregon and Washington at 23,000.

The unfortuna's and distracting controversy some time existing among the Seneca In Hans of New York, in regard to their form of government, seems happily to have termina'ed; the republican system, adopted by the majority in 1848, being apparently acqueiased in by the remainder, by whom it was long and strenuously opposed.

The dictates of hu manity and good policy alike require the early and effective interposition of the government in respect to the Irdians of Michigan. These Indians, some seven thousand in number, are represented to be divided into more than sixty separate communities, and are to be found in nearly every county of the State. Many of them being without any settled places of habitation, and gradually imbing the worstvices of aviilization, are becoming vitiated and degraded, a pest and a nuisane to the neighborhoods where they resort. In this unsate to the inclinance of them have comfortable homes, and, under the influence of the devoted efforts of several Christian de-

seemisteness, are gradually improving and acquiring the habits and taste of artificial file. By a provision of the State constitution, they are sutilled to efficiently about a constitution, they are sutiled to efficiently and about a control of the Maissippi, should they desire to enigrate; but then the surpresses of their desire to enigrate; but then the surpresses of their ever being willing control the maissippi, should they desire to enigrate; but the surpresses of their ever being willing control the maissippi, should they desire to enigrate; but there is no percent of their control and hother of their forefathers. Suitable localities, it is understood, can be found for them in the State, where they their comfort and improvement, without detriment to State or individual interests, and early measures for that purpose should be adopted.

A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the united tricks of Stockbridges and Min A portion of the United States, and the ground of the Ministery in the state of the Ministery in Minister and the state of the Ministery in Ministery and the state of the Ministery in Minister and the state of the Ministery in Minis

The large investments in mills, farms, mechanic shops, and other improvements required by the treaties, to be made for their benefit, will be entirely wasted if the Indians are to remain on these receivations only during the prescribed five year. At the very period when they would begin to reap the full advantage of these beneficial provisions, they would have to remove. Another unforturate feature of this arrangement, if temporary, is, that the Indians will have expended the considerable sums set apart in the treaties for the expenses of their removal to a permanent home, and for subsistence until they could otherwise provide it leaving nothing for these important and necessary purposes in the event of other emigration. In view of these facts and considerations, no time should be lost in determining upon some final arrangement in regard to them.

The tribes of the Upper Missouri agency, with exception of the Blackfeet, are represented as generally quiet and peaceable. Such of them as are parties to the treaty of Fort Laramie have maintained with but one single exception, friendly relations among themselves, and manifeste dan increaseing confidence in, and kindness towards, the whites Some of the Indians in this agency raise corn, beans, pumpkins. &c., to a limited extent, but rely principally on the hunt for their support. The amendments of the Senate of the 2th of May. 1832 to the seventh article of the treaty of Fort Laramie, were promptly assented to by such of the tribes as the agent had conferred with, and there is no doubt but that the others will readily do so when he has an opportunity of seeing them—they being absent at the time of his arrival in their country on their usual hunts. The general condition of the Indians within the limits of the Council Bluff agency is not encouraging. The Othes and Missourias', a confederate tribe, are in a state of abject powerty. Reduced by a combination of causes, and perhaps some neglect on the part of the government this season, it is thought they may, to a great e

tract of land with the loways. Their concition, however, is rather better; but the remarks in relation to the loways are to a considerable extent applicable to the Saos and Foxes.

The Kickapcos are more advanced than any other tribe in the Great Nemaha agency. They are represented as making some progress in agriculture. A few have comfortable houses and domestic animals about them.

The Wyandot's, Shawness and Delawares, are embraced in the Karras agency. A number in each of these tribes are educated, intelligent men, having good dwellings and surrounded with the usual comforts and conveniences of civilized life. Various religious derominations have missions in this agency, and some of the Indians are professors of the Christian religion but many of them are habitual drunkards. The Wyandotts have in operation a system of common schools, and a code of laws for their own go ernment.

The Pottowatomic Indians are not, as a general thing, improving. They have a large money assumity, the our rupting effects of which are very visible. The government has provided no habitation for an agent in their country, and left to themselves without the necessary oversight, with many avenues by which whiskey can be, and constantly is introduced among them, they indulge in the free use of it. Dissipation prevails, and many of the principal men are, it is believed, destitute of integrity, and are used to subserve the purps ses of the avaristions, designing and heartless, who seek, and but too often obtain, the control of them for the promotion of their own sinister views. A few of the bands are, to a considerable exist, cultivating the soil, and there are some good men in the nation, who appear to have availed themselves of the benefits of the missionary efforts among the l'ottowatomies.

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The Kansas Indians, with the Pottowatemies, constitute

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